

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHILDREN'S INSTITUTIONS DEPARTMENT

FOR THE

YEAR 1909-1910



BOSTON

PRINTED AT THE SUFFOLK SCHOOL FOR BOYS

RAINSFORD ISLAND

1910

With the Compliments of the

Children's Institutions Trustees

Of the City of Boston

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ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL REPORT OF TRUSTEES FOR CHILDREN.

CHILDREN'S INSTITUTIONS DEPARTMENT,
30 TREMONT STREET,

BOSTON, February 1, 1910.

Hon. JOHN F. FITZGERALD,

Mayor of the City of Boston:—

SIR, — In accordance with chapter 3, section 22 of the Revised Ordinances, the Trustees for Children present their Annual Report for the financial year ending Jan. 31, 1910, this being the thirteenth year of the Children's Institutions Department, and the fifty-second year of the Institutions Department.

The members of the Board and the times of expiration of their appointments are as follows:—

CHARLES P. PUTNAM, <i>Chairman</i>	. . . . .	May 1, 1911.
Miss MARY BOYLE O'REILLY, <i>Secretary</i>	. . . . .	" 1914.
JOHN O'HARE	. . . . .	" 1913.
LEE M. FRIEDMAN	. . . . .	" 1910.
JAMES P. CLEARY	. . . . .	" 1914.
Mrs. CAROLINE S. ATHERTON	. . . . .	" 1911.
Mrs. RACHEL SHERMAN THORNDIKE	. . . . .	" 1912.

During the past year twenty meetings of the Trustees have been held. The standing committees are:—

Committee on Finance. — The CHAIRMAN, Mr. O'HARE, and Mr. CLEARY.

Committee on Schools. — Mr. FRIEDMAN, Miss O'REILLY, and Mrs. ATHERTON.

Committee on Placing-Out Division. — Mr. FRIEDMAN and Mrs. ATHERTON.

Committee on Releases. — Mr. O'HARE and Miss O'REILLY.

Committee on Legislation. — The CHAIRMAN, Mr. FRIEDMAN, and Mr. CLEARY.

The members of the Board all serve in turn on the Visiting Committee for the Parental School and the Suffolk School for Boys, two members being appointed for two months in succession. They also visit the children placed out in families and institutions at intervals.

The children under the care of the Board are classed as follows:—

(a.) Delinquent children at the Suffolk School for Boys (Rainsford Island) and probationers therefrom.

(b.) Truants at the Parental School (West Roxbury) and probationers therefrom.

(c.) Dependent and Neglected children boarded or placed free in families (usually in the country), and a number in the care of schools for defectives, or other hospitals or institutions not under the management of the Trustees, where they have been placed for training or hospital treatment at the expense of this Department.

The total number of children now in the care of the Department is 1,710, or 24 more than at the beginning of the year, divided as follows:—

In the Suffolk School for Boys	137
On probation from the Suffolk School for Boys,	222
In the Parental School	187
On probation from the Parental School .	331
Dependent children	659
Neglected children	174
Total	<u>1,710</u>

The total number of children admitted to the care of the Department during the year was 420, divided as follows:—

Delinquent children	89
Truant “	91
Dependent “	208
Neglected “	32
Total	<u>420</u>

The total number of children discharged from the Department during the year was 391, divided as follows:—

From the Suffolk School for Boys . .	1
“ Suffolk School for Boys, probationers .	71
“ the Parental School	12
“ Parental School, probationers . .	110
“ Dependent and Neglected children .	197
Total	<u>391</u>

One hundred and seven boys from the Suffolk School for Boys and 139 boys and two girls from the Parental School were released on probation. These remain in charge of the Department, the boys from the Suffolk School for Boys in most instances until their majority is attained, and the boys and girls from the Parental School until they reach the age of 16 years in nearly all cases. Of the 197 dependent and neglected children discharged 14 died, of whom 10 were in institutions not directly in our charge.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The total cost of the Children's Institutions Department for the year was \$204,150.91, which, divided among the whole average number of children (1,714) makes an average per capita expense of \$119.11 for the year, or \$2.29 per week.

An analysis of the expenses of the Placing-Out and Office Division, the Parental School and the Suffolk School for Boys is given in Tables 2B to 2G, inclusive.

The net cost of the Placing-Out Division, with its estimated share of the office expenses amounted to \$88,044.43. This includes a charge of \$175.58, on account of the decrease in the inventory of clothing on hand February 1, 1910, from the inventory of the year previous.

Of this, \$8,928.09 has been paid for the board of children in the Massachusetts Hospital School at Canton, the Massachusetts State Sanatorium at Rutland, and the Long Island Hospital; and \$682.02 was paid on account of children who were at the Massachusetts School for the Feeble-Minded and at the Massachusetts Hospital for Epileptics previous to December 1, 1908, for whom we received no bill until during the year 1909.

The remainder, \$78,434.32, has been paid for an average of 463 children boarded in families and an average of 288 children in free homes. Taking together all children placed in families (751), we find the average per capita cost for the year to be \$104.44, or \$2.00 per week.

The total net cost of caring for the delinquent children was \$52,547.67, of which \$50,504.20 was used for the Suffolk School for Boys. This includes the estimated share of office expenses, \$500.00, and \$6,589.85, which was expended to repair the damages caused by the storm of December 26th, 1909, and \$3,000.00 expended for permanent improvements.

Subtracting these last two items, we have \$40,914.35, making an average per capita cost for each boy actually in the Institution (139), \$294.35 for the year, or \$5.65 for the week.

The remainder, \$2,043.47, represents the amount expended on the visitation of boys on probation in their own homes and homes in the country, the clothing furnished by the Placing-Out Division to some of these boys when going to the country, and board paid for an average of four boys for the year. Taking together all delinquents, both in the Suffolk School for Boys and on probation (an average of 355), the average cost per capita for the year was \$129.46, or \$2.48 per week. (This does not include the amount paid on account of damage caused by storm.)

The total net cost of caring for the truants committed to the Parental School was \$63,734.39, of which \$58,164.82 was used for the Parental School, including an estimated share of the office expenses, (\$500), making an average per capita cost for each child in the institution (188) \$309.39 for the year, or \$5.93 per week.

The remainder, \$5,569.57, represents the amount expended on the visitation of boys on probation in their homes, and homes in the country, the clothing furnished by the Placing-Out Division to some of these boys when going to the country, and board paid for an average of 32 truants on probation. Taking together all the truants (an average of 540), the average per capita cost for the year was \$118.03, or \$2.26 per week.

SUFFOLK SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

The Suffolk School for Boys is on Rainsford Island, which contains eleven acres of ground, far too little for such a School. Boys are committed during minority to this School between the ages of seven and fifteen years, by the courts, ostensibly for various minor offences, but really for ascertained unfitness to be left at large. Chapter 413, Acts of 1906, provides new methods of dealing with juvenile offenders; they are now classed as delinquent children and not as criminals. Under this Act it is the duty of the probation officers of the various courts to investigate each juvenile case before the court takes action and report regarding the character of the child, his school record, his home, his surroundings, and previous complaints against him. If adjudged a delinquent child the court may place the case on file or in the care of the probation officer for such time and on such conditions as may seem proper, or commit such child until he attain the age of twenty-one to the Suffolk School for Boys.

The problem of the School is to make these boys healthy, strong and industrious, and to instill into them such moral principles as will tend to make them good citizens.

The report of the Superintendent and the statistics of the School show to a degree what success has been attained.

Although the boys are committed to the care of the School during minority, yet it is possible for a boy during the first six months, by good behavior, to become eligible for release on probation, and as a matter of fact the average length of stay in the School itself, taking all the boys together, amounts to about 13 months.

Boys who are released on probation from the School are put under the care of the Placing-out department, and

information concerning them is given in the report of the Superintendent of that department. The most severe test of an educational institution is the test of the future and we are glad to record that taking everything into consideration the results are favorable.

An appropriation of \$5,000.00 was made by the Council last summer for filling in a part of the bay and adding to our land. When estimates were obtained, so little could be done for the money, it seemed not worth the expenditure. The storm of December 26th did considerable harm, washing away three hundred feet of the pier and some of the outbuildings and bulkheads, so that it was not possible to reach the island from the wharf. With the consent of the Mayor the appropriation of \$5,000.00 was used towards repairing the damage caused by the storm.

ADDITIONAL (MINORITY) REPORT ON THE SUFFOLK SCHOOL.

For some years there has been a growing conviction on the part of the undersigned members of the Board of Trustees that the time has come for the city to abandon the Suffolk School.

Beginning in 1905, for the last five years we have been calling attention to the utter inadequacy of the institution for the work it is supposed to do. Out of date, out of repair, and needing so much to bring the School up to standard as to be out of the question from any economic point of view, the institution is kept going almost entirely through the personality of the Superintendent and some of his staff.

It is costing the city more per boy* to give less advantages and training than the state for the same class of work.

In the Lyman School and in the new Industrial School for Boys at Shirley, the state has now established and maintains institutions capable of giving this class of boys of the whole state suitable accommodation and training.

Boston is paying approximately 40 percent of the expense of these schools and has equal privilege with the rest of the state to have its boys taken care of in these institutions. Yet Boston insists on duplicating these expenses to run its own local school as a survival of an old system that has long disappeared from the rest of the state. There is not a single argument to justify this, yet it remains as a monument of the inertia that handicaps a modern city's development when the improvement calls for cutting salaried places from the city pay roll.

The boys would have better facilities for being trained in the state institutions at less cost. The distribution of the state boys among the Lyman School, Shirley School, and Concord

* See Tables.

Reformatory, offers a greater protection to the individual youth and better facility for the adequate handling of the needs of certain boys than can be afforded at the Suffolk School where one hundred and fifty boys are placed together more or less entirely on an age basis. It must be only a question of time when the city abandons this waste of money and of youths. We recommend that it be now, and that the Legislature of 1910 be asked for authority to transfer to the Lyman and Shirley Schools the boys now at Rainsford and that the Suffolk School be abandoned.

CHARLES P. PUTNAM.

LEE M. FRIEDMAN.

CAROLINE S. ATHERTON.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE SUFFOLK SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

BOSTON, February 1, 1910.

To the Trustees for Children :—

I have the honor to submit the annual report of the Suffolk School for Boys for the year ending January 31, 1910.

COMMITMENTS.

There have been committed during the year 103 boys, of whom 14 were returned from probation by the Trustees.

Of the whole number 4 boys who had previously been in the institution were committed by the courts.

The number of commitments is smaller than in the year previous, probably because many boys were sent to the new Industrial School at Shirley, who, prior to the opening of that School, would have been sent here.

One hundred and seven have been released on probation and one has been discharged.

The average daily attendance was 139, this average being 22 less than in the year preceding. The largest attendance was 150 on April 8 and 9; the smallest, 128 on November 6, 7, and 8.

The year commenced with a population of 142 and closes with 137, a decrease of 5.

SCHOOL WORK.

No change has been made in the organization of the schools from that of the previous year. The work is in charge of a Principal and four assistant teachers, and an instructor in sloyd. The courses of study, methods, grades, etc., are like those of the city's public schools, and the boys suffer little or no disturbance in their studies upon entering the institution schools or returning to the public schools.

Instruction in sloyd is given two periods each week during the year.

During July and August, a summer school was in session five periods a week.

Evenings indoors were devoted to school-work, reading, letter-writing, amusements and games, entertainments, etc.

INDUSTRIES.

The printing, shoemaking, sewing, and gardening departments have given the benefits of the special training in each to their full quota of boys. The results accomplished have been most satisfactory, and speak well for the spirit of endeavor and intelligent effort of those boys who have been fortunate enough to be connected with one of them.

I have often expressed my regret that circumstances prevent the administration from enlarging the scope of this part of our work.

Under normal conditions, that training which rounds out the individual and makes him capable of choosing and then entering upon and pursuing that work which is best fitted for his talents, is conceded to be the best, but when neither the conditions nor the individual are normal, as in an institution of this character, the changed circumstances must be met by different treatment.

I think it is apparent to those who have studied this question at close range, that the briefness of the stay of the individual in the institution, and the unlikelihood, after his release, of his being either inclined or able financially or otherwise to pursue an occupation in which he has had no previous experience and which is at the same time suited to his talents and will offer opportunities for developing them, will render adequate financial returns for effort expended, and afford him protection from the vicissitudes and uncertainty experienced by those who labor at some occupation dependent upon season or weather, make it necessary to direct the energies of the boy, while under control, into those channels which will result in the special training of brain and hand in some particular trade or occupation judiciously chosen after a study of his individual needs, rather than to attempt merely to provide the preliminary training, so largely theoretical, incidental to all trades and occupations.

A study of the talents and inclinations of the individual will rarely fail to indicate a trade which will be attractive to the boy and which if followed with zeal by him, will change the course of his life and result in the addition of another to the body of self-respecting and useful citizens, and a decrease in the ranks of the idle, shiftless, criminal or vicious.

Such a system is not without its faults, nor is any other, except, perhaps, in theory. The choice of a trade is as likely to be well made when advised by an experienced person who has studied the boy's requirements, as when the boy is left to his own devices.

The installation of a judiciously comprehensive selection of trades or courses of manual training would be of inestimable benefit to this institution. I would have every boy here, unless physically incapacitated, receive some manual training beyond what is possible with present facilities.

RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

Religious services have been conducted in the Chapel each Sunday by Rev. Mathew McDonald, S.J., who has also regularly visited the Catholic boys in their spiritual interests. The Sabbath School has been conducted regularly.

Services for the Protestant boys have been conducted by Miss Lillie A. Cobb.

Services for the Jewish boys have been in charge of the Boston Council of Jewish Women.

This work is often conducted at the cost of much self-sacrifice on the part of those who give their services for the uplifting of our boys, and I wish to express to them my sincere appreciation of their endeavors.

HEALTH.

The health of the boys has been generally good. Four cases were sent to the Long Island Hospital for treatment. One death occurred there from appendicitis. Five hundred and seventy cases were treated by the resident physician, Dr. Charles A. Rabethge.

The dentist, Dr. Evan P. Wentworth, cleansed the teeth of all the boys. He has treated and capped 41 teeth, extracted 223, and made 75 fillings.

The usual classes in gymnastics and athletics have been conducted by the physical director, Dr. Rabethge. The summer ocean baths and holiday observances were continued.

CONCLUSION.

The needs of the institution are not less than last year, and are so well known I need not mention them here.

Many extensive repairs have been made during the year — repairs which are not "ordinary" in the usual sense of that word for the reason that they were made necessary because

we are occupying buildings so ancient that "ordinary" repairs would not suffice to keep them in usable condition. The item of repairs is not what it should be under average conditions.

This fact places us in an unenviable position when comparison is made with other institutions, as is often done. Our "unusual repairs" item added into the cost of maintenance increases our per capita cost to such an extent that it does not compare favorably with some others where conditions are not like ours. If the same conditions prevailed in all the institutions compared, the per capita cost to Boston would be no cause for complaint. I mention this here as I am sure that many times the figures are not given their true value because the above facts are not recognized or not known, and therefore comparisons are of little value.

In conclusion, I wish to express my appreciation to my assistants and the Board of Trustees for their hearty co-operation and generous support.

Respectfully submitted,

SUMNER D. SEAVEY,

Superintendent.

PARENTAL SCHOOL — (THE TRUANT SCHOOL
OF THE CITY OF BOSTON).

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

The Parental School is a school for truants. It is situated on the Charles River, in West Roxbury. The main school for boys consists of two wooden sheds used for school purposes and a new brick school-house; six dormitories; a boiler, kitchen, and laundry building; a hospital and a superintendent's house, and a barn. The two latter are old wooden buildings; two of the dormitories are divided in such a way that each boy has a separate room, while in the others the boys sleep in large rooms together. The girls' school is about a mile away on high land, overlooking the river, and it is an old house remodelled. At present the number of the pupils in the School is smaller than last year. It must be a matter for conjecture, only, whether the numbers are likely to decrease permanently so that it will become a smaller school or whether the causes that have led to the commitment of a smaller number of children are liable to become inoperative, so that the School will become larger. We call attention to the opinion of the Superintendent on this matter.

There is no class of boys to whom an opportunity for industrial training can mean more than to the class of boys at the Parental School. The ordinary school curriculum has failed to appeal to them. In many cases this is purely accidental and a change of surroundings or special attention to the inculcating of regular habits may correct their faults and bring them again into normal school relations. In many cases, however, the fault is deeper than this. The boy may be incapable of sustained mental effort. The only chance to fit such a boy into a useful niche is to make him into a self-sustaining workman. Industrial training offers him his best chance in life. What he lacks in brains he may often make

up in mechanical skill in the use of his hands or body. The city owes to every boy which it fails to reach through its ordinary school work a chance for industrial education. Such training should have an even more important place in a truant school than in the ordinary city school.

We therefore propose, with the opening of our new school house, to develop and extend the industrial training part of our School.

When the new school-house is occupied we shall have for the first time a place where all the boys can be collected under one roof for purposes of entertainment, instruction, or gymnastics.

Release in all cases from this School depends upon the merit system by grading and on the basis of behavior and effort at study which makes it possible for a boy or girl to earn his or her way out in six months. When eligible they are, under provisions of law, set at liberty under certain conditions by joint action of the Trustees, the Superintendent of Schools of Boston, and a Justice of the Court, and they remain at liberty as long as they conform to the conditions. These require that they shall attend day school regularly until they reach the age of fourteen, and thereafter be kept either at school or at work until they reach the age of sixteen years. Those whose homes are unsatisfactory are placed in country homes.

As in previous years the Trustees feel the inadequacy of the School for Truant Girls to meet the needs of such girls. To release them at the age of sixteen years for return to the bad conditions from which they were taken is a policy full of menace to the girls and certainly not for the interest of the city. These girls could be better cared for as neglected children of this Department or of the state. The progress made in school work and the gain in the ways of good house-keeping and right living while the girls are at Helen Cheever Cottage emphasize the demand that their best interests be served. The Trustees have petitioned the General Court to abolish the girls' department, but in vain.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE PARENTAL SCHOOL.

To the Trustees for Children:—

In accordance with your rules I have the honor to submit the following as my report for the year ending January 31, 1910:—

Number of children February 1, 1909	.	.	.	.	189
“ committed during the year	.	.	.	.	91
“ returned from probation	.	.	.	.	60
“ discharged during the year	.	.	.	.	11
“ released on probation	.	.	.	.	141
Number of deaths	1
Number of children January 31, 1910	187

Average daily attendance	188
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Average age of children committed: 12 years, 4 months, 20 days.

Average time spent in the School by children discharged and released on probation: 13 months, 14 days.

Number placed in country homes	.	.	.	.	29
Number returned from country homes to the Parental School	.	.	.	.	16
Number allowed to go from country homes to their own homes	.	.	.	.	11
Number returned from probation from own homes	.	.	.	.	45
Number out on probation recommitted	.	.	.	.	1
Number out on probation committed to Suffolk School,	.	.	.	.	7
Number out on probation committed to Lyman School,	.	.	.	.	1
Number out on probation committed to Industrial School,	.	.	.	.	1
Number at home on probation	.	.	.	.	279
Number in country homes on probation	52

Whole number out on probation	331
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Weekly per capita expense	\$5.93
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HEALTH.

The general health has been excellent, there having been few cases of serious sickness. Again (as in the previous year) we were called to mourn the death of one boy, William Bean, who died December 9th, in the City Hospital, after undergoing an operation for osteomyelitis. Fifteen patients were sent to the City Hospital for treatment or operation: one with swollen glands of the neck; one with osteomyelitis; one with diphtheria; three with appendicitis; and nine with scarlet fever. Forty-eight children were supplied with spectacles during the year.

Dr. Constantine Popoff, the medical house officer, has treated 1,171 cases: 108 were hospital patients, 15 of whom were transferred to the City Hospital. The visiting staff of physicians were Dr. A. M. Worthington, Dr. W. W. Howell, Dr. E. N. Libbey, Dr. F. C. Jillson; Dr. Edward D. Hurley, ophthalmologist; Dr. C. Morton Smith, dermatologist; Dr. J. S. Stone, consulting surgeon; Dr. E. P. Wentworth, dentist.

Dr. Edward D. Hurley has examined the eyes of the children as they were admitted, or needed attention. Forty-eight were supplied with spectacles.

Dr. Evan P. Wentworth, dentist, treated and capped 52 teeth, extracted 387 teeth, and made 107 fillings. The teeth of all the boys were cleansed in July and January.

SCHOOL WORK.

There has been little change in the school work during the year. Until the beginning of the fall term we had nine grade teachers and two sloyd teachers. One of the former and one of the latter resigned their positions at that time, and until the beginning of the winter term we had eight grade teachers and one sloyd teacher when the number was augmented by the appointment of a teacher of industrial work.

At the present time we have about twenty pupils to a teacher, a number sufficiently small to secure good results. The number of boys in the School being considerably smaller than for a number of years past, it will be possible with the smaller classes to offer better advantages than they have enjoyed heretofore and make it possible for the more advanced boys to graduate from the grammar school. To some of the older and brighter boys a diploma from the grammar school would be an incentive to do their best work and would doubtless arouse in some the ambition to enter one of the high schools.

During five weeks of the summer vacation the boys under a special instructor learned a number of new out-door plays and games and had gymnastic exercises daily in the open air, and the latter part of the summer we had several field days, the boys of the several cottages engaging in competitive drills and games.

During July and August the boys and girls went in bathing nearly every day, and many of the boys and all of the girls but one learned to swim.

Besides the general garden work most of the boys had gardens of their own in which they took great interest and from which they learned many valuable lessons. This branch of nature study never fails to arouse their curiosity and the powers of comparison, judgment, and reasoning are supplied with material calculated to stimulate their activity, while the memory gathers many new facts and impressions through the boys' own efforts.

INTERMEDIATE INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

There are probably between twenty-five and thirty thousand children in Massachusetts between the ages of 14 and 16 who are now either engaged in so-called juvenile employments or who are growing up in ignorance and idleness. Practically all of our boys between these age limits belonged to the latter class before their commitment. It is, then, a matter of the highest importance to these boys and to society that they be given the kind of training while here that will at least best fit them "to begin the learning of a trade," and not only make it possible to ascertain whether they are fitted by nature for any mechanical trade, but also to go a step farther and determine what trade they are fitted for.

A school in which the age limit is 16 certainly cannot turn out skilled journeymen. If we shall be able to offer such advantages to our boys that those who are fitted for a trade come to recognize that fact and have a settled purpose to learn it, we shall have done all we can do for them vocationally; provided, furthermore, we do our utmost, if necessary, to find them employment (after leaving the School) where they can get the shop experience required for learning a trade and for making skilled workmen.

In other words they should receive while here a certain amount of intermediate industrial education, *i.e.*, they should do pre-apprentice work to fit them to become apprentices in the trades and to give them some insight into the problems and conditions of the trades, so that on entering a

shop they may the more intelligently, and therefore the more quickly, adapt themselves to shop routine.

At the beginning of the winter term, January 3, we formed two classes of fifteen each, each class working three half-day periods a week under an experienced and competent teacher.

It is impossible to outline a hard and fast course of study for these intermediate industrial classes. They are composed of boys between 14 and 16 years of age and it should, from the standpoint of greatest advantage both to the individual and to the community, be our aim to train them for practical work and at the same time secure an adequate intellectual training.

Public industrial training in this country has but just begun and the task is a great one, requiring as it does and will the best thought of educators and much experimentation by practical workers. What we may be able to accomplish in this department of education is as yet problematical. However, we trust that what we have begun and what we may do will result not only in affording our boys an opportunity to learn to become self-supporting, but also in pointing out and securing for them a career which will insure them steady work and an increasing wage.

THE TEACHERS.

Within the past year the maximum salary of our teachers has been increased ninety-six dollars and is now the same as the maximum salary of teachers of disciplinary classes of the public schools of the city, whose work corresponds to that of our teachers in its nature and in difficulty. This increase of salary will mean much to the School as it will enable us to secure and retain the very best teachers. Transfers of teachers to the city schools will be less frequent and the securing of first-class teachers will be less difficult. But there are other benefits and privileges enjoyed by the public school teachers in which our teachers cannot as yet share. Legislation is necessary before our teachers can be pensioned, and the privilege of having one year in eight for study and travel has not yet been accorded them. In order, therefore, that the status of our teachers may be identical with that of the public school teachers, the following recommendations are made:

1. That steps be taken to secure for our teachers the benefits of the pension system.

2. That the Regulations of the public schools governing leaves of absence be adopted by the Trustees for Children.

HELEN CHEEVER COTTAGE.

The year has been a pleasant and profitable one for the girls. The number has been so small that it has been possible for them to enjoy the advantages of family life with few of the disadvantages incident to life in an institution. The discipline, management, and instruction have been excellent, and the general health has been all that could be expected. Their good health and almost perfect freedom from even slight ailments have been largely due to the regular life, out-door exercise, and cleanly habits which they are required to observe.

Five afternoons a week (during the school months) from 1:30 to 5 p.m., with an intermission of fifteen to thirty minutes, they have devoted to school work. Of the eight girls now in the school six are in grade five, one in grade six, and one in grade seven, and all are making commendable progress. Some of the girls have already begun to use the typewriter which was recently bought for them. This will be a valuable help in teaching spelling, capitalization, and punctuation, and it may stimulate some of the more scholarly and ambitious girls, who have little taste for domestic work, to enter high school and to seek more congenial employment. But their chief duties have been in the line of domestic work. This side of their education has been emphasized. Cooking, sewing, laundry, and general housework are each in turn a part of each girl's experience. Among the gratifying features of the work are the practical lessons in household economy which they are taught in many ways, and the neatness and orderliness in household affairs which they are required to practise and which contribute so largely towards the comfort, contentment, and happiness of family life.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

As in years past the Catholic children have attended Saint Theresa's Church and the Protestant children the South Evangelical Church. Mr. Max Fritz and his several assistants have taught the Jewish boys the principles of their faith. We hereby make grateful acknowledgment to those who have given so unselfishly of their time and energy to the religious training of those who have come under their instruction.

SPEAKERS AND ENTERTAINMENTS.

The following is a list of the speakers and entertainments during the year:

Mr. George E. Brock, member of School Committee; Boys' Symphony Orchestra from the West End; Rev. Wm. H. Beers; Mrs. Mary Pamela Rice, President of Fathers' and Mothers' Club; Mr. Harlan F. Ober; Rev. Milan C. Ayres; Rev. Burton Shepard; Mrs. Elizabeth Evans; Mr. W. E. Baker, Magician; the Empire Concert Company; Saint Joseph's Orchestra, through kindness of Mr. Charles T. Foley. All of the above except Mr. Baker and the Empire Concert Company, who entertained the boys and girls on Thanksgiving and Christmas Days respectively, generously gave their services, and we hereby thank them for the interest they have shown in the welfare of the children and for the entertainment and instruction they have given them.

ATTENDANCE.

The average attendance has greatly decreased during the past few years. But this fact is not a difficult one to explain, at least to explain in part.

The teachers of the public schools evidently realize that it may not be to their credit, and oftentimes may be to their discredit, if their pupils are committed to the Parental School. The natural consequence is that they are making their schools more attractive and the restraint and routine less irksome to their pupils. They are, many of them, striving to learn more and more about the home life of their pupils and, like the truant officers, are making a study of the Boy Problem and seeking more and more to secure the co-operation of parents. Truant officers realize full well that while their success may not be measured altogether by the small number of boys they may have committed to the Parental School, it is certainly not measured by the number of commitments they are able to secure.

Medical inspectors and district nurses are of invaluable help in recommending and giving treatment which makes school life a pleasure to many children who otherwise for relief from pain or discomfort incident to school work would shun the school-room and become fit or, rather, legal subjects for truant schools.

The Juvenile courts and probation officers are large factors in bringing about the great decrease in the number committed to schools of this kind. Under the care and direction of judges and probation officers of the right sort, many who would otherwise be committed to institutions yield to right influences and are reclaimed from a career of wrong doing. The boys' clubs, settlement houses and child-helping societies are all aiding in the work, and society in general seems to be

aroused as never before to the promotion of the welfare of childhood.

The disciplinary classes also have a tendency to lessen our numbers, inasmuch as some boys on probation from this School, and other boys whose conduct renders them eligible for commitment here, become members of these classes instead of increasing our attendance, which was the case before the disciplinary classes were established.

We should share with society in general the satisfaction which comes with the knowledge that new forces and influences are directing our boys more naturally and successfully into right ways of thinking and doing, and that, when ideal social conditions shall exist, the execution of the law pertaining to compulsory school attendance will no longer require special schools for truant children.

OUR NEEDS.

The two greatest material needs of a year ago have been supplied. The new school building is expected to be ready for occupancy about May 1, and the hospital is now heated from the central heating plant.

Our chief needs at the present time are a new barn and a coal pocket, which we trust will soon be supplied.

Respectfully submitted,

D. P. DAME,
Superintendent.

FEBRUARY 22, 1910.

PLACING-OUT AND OFFICE DIVISION.

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

Now that the "Massachusetts System," consisting in the placing of dependent children in families instead of keeping them in institutions has become firmly established in this country, it is interesting to observe what a great change it has introduced. When the Trustees of the Children's Institutions were first appointed, in 1897, there were still nearly four hundred children in the Marcella Street Home, and although it might have been generally conceded that a smaller home would have answered the purpose of caring for such of these dependents as were supposedly not in a condition to be placed in families, yet no one guessed that the institution could be given up so soon and entirely replaced by distributing the children all over the country in proper homes. Once the great majority of dependent children were confined in houses, or at least within walls, for no fault of their own. The number so treated is now very small. Formerly the burden of proof was placed on those who advocated placing-out. Now it rests on those who advocate the institution system. Attention is called to various activities fully described in the report of the General Agent of this and previous years.

The object of this division is to give a home to a homeless child, to keep it at the public school and in social equality with the average child of the State, or indeed to give it still better than average advantages by carefully supervising each child and its environment, through a visitor who is made its friend and advocate.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL AGENT FOR THE
PLACING-OUT AND OFFICE DIVISION.

To the Trustees for Children:—

I herewith respectfully submit the report of this Division for the year ending January 31, 1910.

In the business of the office each case receives personal attention: the hearing of statements of persons who come to the office to procure or to dispose of children; the making of permanent records of each ward of the city; writing statements for the investigations for the release or admission of children; preparing reports; correspondence; procuring and sending clothing to children placed at board; and accompanying children to and from homes in the country to hospitals and institutions, as well as a variety of miscellaneous work incident to children, not recorded.

There are now in the care of the Placing-Out Division, outside of institutions, 1,316 children, which includes 461 probationers from the Suffolk and Parental Schools in their own homes. In addition, there were supported at the Massachusetts State Sanatorium for Consumptives, at Rutland, during the year, 22, and at the Massachusetts Hospital School at Canton, for crippled and deformed children, 42, these institutions not being under the management of the Trustees, but for whom this Department pays the cost of maintenance. The bill for such cases was \$7,603.09, an increase of \$6,028.75, over the previous year.

HOMES.

The aim of this Division is to provide for each child in its care the advantages of a good home. Most of the children are placed in the country, while others, requiring special care on account of physical or mental defects, are placed permanently or temporarily in special schools or hospitals. The whole number boarded or in free homes, scattered about in this and other New England states, is now 851.

The conditions under which children are placed in homes vary with the needs of the individual child. The sort of homes that are accepted may be classified as follows :

1. Free homes, where children will be cared for temporarily, permanently, or will be adopted. 2. Homes where older boys and girls may make themselves useful without compensation in return for the comforts of a good home, with opportunities to take up the higher branches of study. 3. Places where reasonable wages will be given, when the child is old enough, and where there are good home conditions for boys and girls. 4. Boarding places for young children, where, in return for a compensation, the best care will be given.

As a rule, not more than two children are placed in a home, except members of the same family, and then not exceeding three. Special attention, therefore, is paid to the following points: The moral character of the family must be known to be good; the sleeping accommodations for the child must be healthful, and it must be borne in mind that this is for the future as well as for the present; the income must be sufficient for the support of the family without the child's board money; the ages of the members of the family are considered, and the health of each one should be good, not only for the present time but likely to be so as long as the child remains with them. Homes, before being accepted, must be recommended by the clergyman of the church which the family attends, and must be approved by a visitor of the Department. Care is taken to have a few homes convenient to the city, each of which can accommodate six or seven children who need training, special care or medical treatment, where they are kept under close observation for long or short periods before being placed in the family selected for them. In a few towns near at hand a large number of infants or delicate children are gathered, and are frequently visited by our trained nurse. Few of the boarding children are placed outside of the state.

The general health of the children has been good. Most of those needing medical care have been treated by physicians, oculists, and dentists in the towns where they reside. Eighty-two have, however, been brought to the city for treatment at the various hospitals.

When children are placed directly in families, it is required that they be of the same religious faith as the parents of the child, and that when old enough the child shall attend day school, Sunday school, and church, regularly. The clergymen and visitors see that these rules are complied with.

Out of an average of 846 children in country homes during the year, there have been but four deaths: one child was under one year of age; one was three years of age; two were ten years of age. Ten others died in hospitals not connected with the Department. For causes of deaths see Table 40.

Correspondence between worthy parents (or if no parents, relatives or friends) and the children is encouraged, all communications being sent through the Department. Occasional visits are allowed.

At Christmas time all the placed-out children received from their visitors a present suitable to their years, in the form of books, cards, etc.

TRUANTS.

At present there are fifty boys and two girls from the Parental School who have been released on probation, either in free homes or at board in families in the country.

Many of the truant boys, on reaching the age of sixteen years, prefer to remain in their country homes rather than return to city life. Frequent requests to be returned to their former homes in the country are received from boys after they have been discharged to their parents; to others, however, country life is not congenial, and we have much difficulty in keeping them in their places. Probationers in their own homes in the city and attending school, in addition to frequent visits to their homes and schools by the agent in charge of them, are required to report once a month, generally on Saturdays, at the Trustees' office, and to bring a card from their teachers giving an account of their attendance and conduct at school. Truant officers and masters of schools co-operate with our agents in the supervision of these boys and girls.

Of 276 probationers at home, (boys,) 102 are attending day school; 4 are employed and attending night school; 119 are employed and not attending school; 16 are irregularly employed; 9 are unemployed; 20 are out of the state or city, not visited; 6 have been lost sight of. Three girls at home on probation are employed.

NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

Neglected children are those who have not received proper care from their parents or guardians, and on this account, usually on complaint of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, are committed during their minority, by the Courts, to the care of this Department.

These children, when received, are placed in families either at board or free, and may, after a while, be released to their own homes with the approval of the Trustees, when there is evidence to show that they will no longer be neglected; however, about seventy-five per cent of these sentenced children remain wards of the Department during the full term for which they are committed.

DEPENDENTS.

The largest class of children are the Dependents, who are received from parents or friends. The most important causes for these applications are illness, misfortune, separation of parents, and intemperance. Like the neglected children, they are seldom disposed of other than by placing them in country homes until relatives or friends are able to take charge of them again.

DELINQUENT CHILDREN.

When an inmate of the Suffolk School has earned his merits and is eligible for release from the institution, he is placed, under provisions of the merit system, in his home if it is found satisfactory; if otherwise, in a home in the country. In either case he remains under the supervision of an agent of the Board until he attains his majority. Probationers in their homes, or in homes procured for them, may be returned to the School when they fail to comply with the conditions of their release. Supervision over these boys at home is not only maintained by visits but also by correspondence, and they are required to report at the office of the Trustees at stated intervals to the agent in whose charge they are.

The shoe shop and printing department of the Suffolk School are equipped with the best modern machinery. Here all the printing for the three divisions is done, including the Annual Report. Boys who have received instruction in these branches have been quite fortunate in finding employment after their release; many of them are doing well and earning good wages.

Of the 182 boys on probation in their own homes, 24 are attending day school; four are employed and attending night school; 98 are employed and not attending school; 28 are irregularly employed; eight are unemployed; 13 are out of the state or city, not visited; 7 are lost sight of.

SCHOOLING.

The law in reference to school attendance of our wards, has, with few exceptions, been complied with. Eleven boys

and twelve girls are attending high schools, normal schools, academies, or business colleges; one boy will enter medical school next year.

Section 4 of Chapter 44 of the Revised Laws provides for the tuition in the public schools in any city or town in the Commonwealth of a child between the ages of five and fifteen years, who shall be placed elsewhere than in his own home, by the Trustees for Children of the City of Boston. An appropriation of fifty cents is paid for each week of five days, or major part thereof, of attendance of every such child in the public schools. The transportation of the children to and from a public school, when necessary, is also payable by the City of Boston. Statements of the accounts of the several cities and towns are to be made annually on the first day of April. Under the provisions of this Law all bills for tuition and transportation are audited by this Department and paid by the School Board of the City of Boston.

VISITS.

A very careful supervision is maintained over all children after they are placed in families. They are visited by agents of the Department for the purpose of inquiring into their general conditions and associations, making sure that they are kindly treated, that they attend school, and are sent to church and Sunday school; that they are given proper moral training and that all other conditions, under which they were placed, are complied with. Also, that all contracts made in behalf of children on indenture have been duly observed. Personal interviews with the child, the family, teacher, and pastor, and the general appearance of the child, health, cleanliness, and treatment, are recorded. Clothing and sleeping accommodations must be examined, and the food supply judged by occasionally calling at meal hours. The appearance of the child will indicate whether the food is right in quantity and kind.

According to my annual custom, and in order to know personally the condition and situation of our wards in country homes, I have this year visited some forty-seven towns in this and adjoining states. I found, with few exceptions, that the children were regular at school and church, well clothed, well fed, and kindly treated.

INVESTIGATIONS.

The homes of all dependent children are visited before admission and a thorough investigation made concerning each

applicant, covering reasons for admission, wage earning capacity of family, and probable length of time for which support of children will be needed. When the family requires temporary aid only, they are referred to the Overseers of the Poor, or to a private charitable society which will render the necessary assistance. A record of conditions of parents is also kept while children remain in the care of the Department. The total number of investigations during the year was 2,149. This included investigations for applications for admission or release of dependent and neglected children, of boarding and free homes, for adoption, for admission to the School for the Feeble-Minded, the School for Crippled and Deformed Children, the State Sanatorium, Rutland; for release from the Suffolk School and from the Parental School.

CONCLUSION.

The results of our work show that among those who have passed out of the care of the Department are successful farmers, mechanics, teachers, doctors, lawyers, nurses, wives and mothers, many of whom are filling places of trust.

We also have occasional visits from our wards of former years, boys and girls, who come to tell of their successes and their reverses in life, sometimes for assistance and advice.

The Placing-Out and Office force consists of fourteen persons, who, by their faithfulness and care, have contributed much to the success of the work.

I am under obligation to the Trustees for encouragement and support, and to the various public and private charities for their kind assistance and for favors received.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN E. MCCARTHY,

General Agent.

This Report of the Trustees for Children, including reports of officers of the Department, is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES P. PUTNAM, *Chairman.*

JOHN O'HARE.

LEE M. FRIEDMAN.

JAMES P. CLEARY.

CAROLINE S. ATHERTON.

RACHEL SHERMAN THORNDIKE.

MARY BOYLE O'REILLY, *Secretary.*

APPENDIX.

GENERAL AND FINANCIAL STATISTICS.

TABLE NO. 1.

Comparisons of Admissions, including Court Commitments, for the past Thirteen Years.

	DEPENDENT.	NEGLECTED.	TRUANTS.	JUVENILE OFFENDERS.	TOTAL.
1897.....	259	28	167	93	547
1898.....	187	37	189	126	539
1899.....	108	30	189	113	440
1900.....	171	23	171	107	472
1901.....	112	25	204	89	430
1902.....	131	24	242	104	501
1903.....	113	10	213	89	425
1904.....	129	26	193	81	429
1905.....	197	22	260	84	563
1906.....	199	29	133	73	434
1907.....	190	32	139	125	486
1908.....	197	21	104	125	447
1909.....	208	32	91	89	420

During the year there were 151 truants committed to the Parental School, 60 of whom had been formerly released on probation; 103 juvenile offenders were committed to the Suffolk School for Boys, 14 of whom had previously been released on probation.

Including these recommitments, there was a total of 494 children admitted during the year.

TABLE NO. 2.

Average Number of Children in Care of the Department during the Year.

Average number of Dependent and Neglected Children in Free Homes	288	
Average number of Dependent and Neglected Children boarding	463	
Average number of Dependent and Neglected Children in Institutions	68	
Total average number of Dependent and Neglected Children	—	819
Average number of Juvenile Offenders in Suffolk School for Boys	139	
Average number of Juvenile Offenders on Probation from Suffolk School	*216	
Total average number of Juvenile Offenders	—	355
Average number of Truants in Parental School,	188	
Average number of Truants on Probation from Parental School	†352	
Total average number of Truants	—	540
Total average in care of the Department		<u>1,714</u>

* Of this number an average of 33 were placed by the Placing-Out Division in country homes, for four of whom board was paid.

† Of this number an average of 62 were placed by the Placing-Out Division in country homes, for 32 of whom board was paid.

TABLE NO. 2 A.

Total and Average Cost of the Three Divisions.

Placing-Out and Office Division	\$96,691 89
Parental School	59,535 49
Suffolk School for Boys	52,960 97
<hr/>	
Total	\$209,188 35
 Income from the three Divisions, (bills and cash forwarded to the City Collector,)	
	5,037 44
<hr/>	
Total net cost	<u>\$204,150 91</u>
 Average per capita cost of total number of children (1,714) under our care for the year	
	<u>\$119 11</u>
 Average per capita expense of total number of children per week	
	<u>\$2 28</u>

TABLE NO. 2 B.

Office Expenses.

Salaries	\$13,095 04
Expressage	591 12
Printing	538 72
Telephone	402 56
Postage	352 57
Stationery	311 03
Office expenses and library supplies	242 71
<hr/>	
Total	<u>\$15,533 75</u>
 Estimated proportion expended on work : For the Suffolk School probationers \$1,450 For the Parental School probationers 1,650 For the Parental School 500 For the Suffolk School for Boys 500	
	<hr/>
	\$4,100 00
 Estimated amount expended on work of Placing-Out Division	
	11,433 75
<hr/>	
Total	<u>\$15,533 75</u>

TABLE NO. 2 C.

Placing-Out Division.

Board of children (including an average of 36 probationers)	\$54,324 11
Board of children at Massachusetts Hospital School, Massachusetts State Sanatorium, and Long Island Hospital (an average of 53 for the year)	8,928 09
Board of children at Massachusetts School for the Feeble-Minded, and at the Hospital for Epileptics	*682 02
Clothing, and children's furnishings	8,820 63
Transportation (visitation and travelling expenses),	5,909 66
Medical and surgical care and supplies	2,297 94
Expenses, account adoption of children	109 50
Expense of burials during the year	50 00
Entertainment	36 19
	<hr/>
	\$81,158 14
Decrease in inventory of clothing February 1, 1910, from February 1, 1909	175 58
	<hr/>
	\$81,333 72

CREDITS.

Board paid for an average of 36 probationers	\$3,754 44
Clothing furnished truants on probation,	582 29
Clothing furnished delinquents on probation	176 31
Cash received, account board of children, (sent to City Collector,)	210 00
	<hr/>
	\$4,723 04
Net total	<hr/>
	\$76,610 68
	<hr/>

* This amount was for board of children at these Institutions previous to December 1, 1908, for whom no bill was rendered until 1909, the settlement being then determined in Boston.

TABLE NO. 2 D.

Expenditures of Placing-Out Division	\$76,610 68
Estimated proportion of office expenses expended on this Division	11,433 75
Total	<u>\$88,044 43</u>
Cost of board of children at other institutions,	9,610 11
Net expenditures for dependent and neglected children in homes (free and boarding)	<u>\$78,434 32</u>

TABLE NO. 2 E.

Total cost of dependent and neglected children placed in families (average number 751)	<u>\$78,434 32</u>
Per capita total expense of dependent and neglected children in families	<u>\$104 44</u>
Of the average number of dependent and neglected children boarded during the year, 463,	
The average cost of board per capita was	\$109 44
The average cost of clothing per capita (estimated),	18 00
The average cost of medical care per capita (esti- mated).	4 00
Total	<u>\$131 44</u>
Of the total number of children placed-out in families the average number boarded dur- ing the year (including an average of 36 probationers) was	499
The average number of children on indenture in free homes during the year (including an average of 59 probationers) was	347
The total average of children in country homes (both free and boarding homes) was	<u>846</u>
The cost of board for these children was	\$54,324 11
Transportation	5,909 66
Clothing	8,820 63
Medical care	2,297 94
Total	<u>\$71,352 34</u>
Per capita expense of children placed in families, including these items	<u>\$84 34</u>

TABLE NO. 2 F.

Expenses for Suffolk School for Boys.

Salaries :

Superintendent	\$2,000 00
Officers and Matrons	12,840 15
Teachers	4,080 00

\$18,920 15

Food and ice	8,194 81
Repairs and improvements	4,512 09
Fuel and light	3,035 17
Furniture and utensils	2,179 52
Laundry	1,771 67
Agricultural supplies	1,533 68
Clothing and bedding	1,249 31
School and library supplies	840 33
Medical care and supplies	361 92
Soap and disinfectants	342 35
Printing, postage and stationery	199 73
Sundries (including entertainment of inmates, transportation, freight and telephone)	226 84

\$43,367 57

Repairing damage caused by storm of Dec. 26, 1909,	6,589 85
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Industries :

Shoemaking	\$2,681 20
Printing	322 35

3,003 55

Total \$52,960 97

Estimated proportion of office expenses	500 00
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\$53,460 97

CREDITS.

Income from the Shoe-shop from other

Divisions	\$2,452 60
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Income from the Printing Office from

other Divisions	478 50
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Rebate on agricultural implement	*1 07
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Cash received account shoes and printing,	24 60
---	-------

Income sent to City Collector	<hr/> 2,956 77
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Net total \$50,504 20

Deduct amt. expended for repairing damages caused

by storm, and for permanent improvements	9,589 85
--	----------

\$40,914 35

* This amount was not credited to our appropriation.

Per capita expense of an average of 139 boys at the Suffolk School for Boys during the year .	<u>\$294 35</u>
Per capita expense of an average of 139 boys per week	<u>\$5 65</u>
Shoes made by the Shoe-shop for boys at the Insti- tution	\$972 90
Printing done by the Printing Office for the Institu- tion	<u>79 52</u>
Making an additional income from Industries of .	<u>\$1,052 40</u>

TABLE NO. 2 G.

Expenses for Parental School.

Salaries :

Superintendent	\$2,000 00	
Officers and Matrons	15,680 81	
Teachers	9,162 50	
		<hr/>
		\$26,843 31
Food and ice		11,960 19
Fuel and lights		7,291 67
Repairs and improvements		3,360 92
Clothing and bedding		2,665 68
Furniture and utensils		2,189 39
Agricultural supplies		2,077 48
Medical care and supplies		627 11
School and library supplies		537 77
Soap and disinfectants		520 54
Printing, stationery and postage		311 81
Telephone		276 03
Sundries (including entertainment of inmates, transportation, and freight)		554 74
Taxes and Rent of Helen Cheever Cottage		318 85
		<hr/>
		\$59,535 49
Estimated proportion of office expenses		500 00
		<hr/>
		\$60,035 49

CREDITS.

Laundry work for the Suffolk School for Boys	\$1771 67	
Cash received account board of boys	99 00	
		<hr/>
Income sent to the City Collector		1,870 67
		<hr/>
Net total		\$58,164 82
		<hr/> <hr/>
Per capita expense of an average of 181 boys and 7 girls at the Parental School during the year,		\$309 39
		<hr/> <hr/>
Per capita expense per week		\$5 93
		<hr/> <hr/>
Laundry work was done for the officers and inmates of the Parental School, making an additional income of		\$2,740 00
		<hr/> <hr/>

TABLE NO. 3.

*Inventory, and Appraisal of Real and Personal Estate,
January 31, 1910.*

OFFICE OF THE TRUSTEES AND PLACING-OUT DIVISION.

Furniture, etc.	\$1,000 00
Stationery and office supplies	400 00
Clothing and dry goods	2,468 23
Total	<u>\$3,868 23</u>

SUFFOLK SCHOOL FOR BOYS, RAINSFORD ISLAND.

Land	\$20,000 00
Buildings	42,000 00
	<u>\$62,000 00</u>
Bedding, clothing and dry goods	3,725 00
Household goods and furniture	3,614 00
Coal	1,500 00
Agricultural Department, equipment and supplies	1,700 00
Sundry other supplies	3,137 00
	<u>\$75,676 00</u>
Shoemaking Department, equipment and supplies	5,579 00
Printing Department, equipment and supplies	2,285 00
Total	<u>\$83,540 00</u>

PARENTAL SCHOOL, WEST ROXBURY.

Land	\$52,500 00
Buildings (new school building, \$35,000)	230,000 00
	<u>\$282,500 00</u>
Furniture and household goods	6,200 00
Clothing, bedding and dry goods	3,800 00
Agricultural department, stock, vehicles and sup- plies	1,400 00
Coal	1,000 00
School equipment and supplies	1,100 00
Sundry other supplies	2,100 00
Total	<u>\$298,100 00</u>

STATISTICS OF THE SUFFOLK SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

TABLE NO. 4.

*Number Committed during the year ending January 31, 1910,
Classified by Offences.*

Offences against property :

Attempt to commit larceny	2	
Breaking and entering	7	
Breaking, entering and larceny	17	
Larceny from person	1	
Larceny	31	
Breaking glass	4	
	—	<i>Percent.</i>
	62	60.20

Offences against the person :

Assault and battery	9	8.74
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Other offences :

Drunkenness	1	.97
Idle and disorderly	1	.97
Committing an unnatural act	1	.97
Committed as delinquent children	4	3.88
Committed as stubborn children	11	10.68
Returned from probation by Trustees	14	13.59
	—	—
	103	100.00
	—	—

TABLE NO. 4 A.

Commitments, Discharges, and Number of Inmates during the last Ten Years.

	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909
Total number in the Suffolk School for Boys at the beginning of the years . . .	135	88	112	119	131	148	160	120	145	142
Total number committed . . .	107	89	104	89	81	95	84	139	164	103
Total number during each year . . .	242	177	216	208	212	243	244	259	309	245
Total number discharged . . .	154	65	97	77	64	83	124	114	167	108

Total number on the books of the Institution
January 31, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903,
1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910,

88	112	119	131	148	160	120	145	142	137
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TABLE NO. 5.

Number Released on Probation and Discharged during the Year, and their Condition at the end of the Year.

	TOTAL.	Doing well.	Conduct fair.	Conduct unsatisfactory.	Returned to the Suffolk School for Boys.	Massachusetts Reformatory.	Ab-sconded.	U.S. Navy.	To Rela-tive out of State.
DISCHARGED FROM THE SUFFOLK SCHOOL FOR BOYS.									
Died	1								
Total discharged	1								
RELEASED ON PROBATION.									
To home, to attend school	14	8	2	2	1	. .	. .	. .	1
To home, to work	63	30	19	3	6	. .	1	1	
To be indentured	29	13	5	6	3	. .	2		
Boarding	1	1							
Total number released on probation	107	52	26	11	10	3	3	1	1
Total discharged and released on probation	108								

TABLE NO. 6.

*Number Committed during the Year from each of the Court
Districts of the City.*

South Boston	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	21
Roxbury	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	15
Juvenile	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	14
Dorchester	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	10
East Boston	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9
Superior	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9
Charlestown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	8
West Roxbury	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3
									<hr/> 89
Returned	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	14
									<hr/>
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	<u>103</u>

TABLE NO. 7.

*Nativity, and Nativity of Father, of Boys Committed during
the Year.*

	NATIVITY.	PERCENT.	NATIVITY OF FATHER.	PERCENT.
Boston	75	72.81	16	15.53
Elsewhere in Massachu- setts	8	7.77	4	3.88
Elsewhere in United States.....	7	6.80	8	7.77
Foreign born	11	10.68	64	62.14
Unknown	2	1.94	11	10.68
Total.....	103	100.00	103	100.00

TABLE NO. 8.

Number Committed by Months during the Year.

February, 1909	.	.	12	September, 1909	.	.	6
March, "	.	.	9	October, "	.	.	10
April, "	.	.	9	November, "	.	.	6
May, "	.	.	7	December, "	.	.	12
June, "	.	.	11	January, 1910	.	.	5
July, "	.	.	8				
August, "	.	.	8	Total	.	.	103

Average attendance in Institution	.	.	.	139
Largest number in Institution during year	.	.	.	150
Smallest number in Institution during year	.	.	.	128

TABLE NO. 9.

Age of Boys at Commitment and at Release on Probation during the Year.

AGE.	Number Committed.	Percent.	Number Released on Probation.	Percent.
9 years.....	2	1.94		
10 "	4	3.88		
11 "	5	4.86	1	0.93
12 "	12	11.65	2	1.87
13 "	13	12.62	9	8.41
14 "	16	15.53	12	11.22
15 "	27	26.21	11	10.28
16 "	17	16.51	37	34.58
17 "	7	6.80	29	27.10
18 " .....	..	....	6	5.61
Totals	103	100.00	107	100.00
Average age	14.04	....	15.68	

TABLE NO. 10.

*Boys Discharged or Released during the Year, Classified by
Duration of Commitment.*

6 months	1	1 year, 7 months	3
7 "	7	1 " 8 "	2
8 "	14	1 " 10 "	1
9 "	13	1 " 11 "	1
10 "	7	2 years	1
11 "	13	2 " 1 month	1
1 year	12	2 " 3 months	1
1 " 1 month	6	2 " 7 "	1
1 " 2 months	6	2 " 8 "	1
1 " 3 "	5	3 "	1
1 " 4 "	4	3 " 1 month	1
*1 " 5 "	2	3 " 8 months	1
1 year, 6 months	2	3 " 11 "	1

* Of these, one died.

Average time, by months, spent in the Suffolk School
for Boys by all boys released or discharged . . 13.49

Average time, by months, spent in the Suffolk School
for Boys by all boys released on probation . . 13.46

TABLE NO. 11.

Conditions and Conduct at end of Year 1909 of all Boys on Probation outside the Suffolk School for Boys, subject to the Control of the Trustees.

	On Probation. At home.	On Probation. On indeture and boarding.	On Probation. Working inde- pendently.	All boys on probation.	
					<i>Percent.</i>
Doing well	91	23	. .	114	51.35
Conduct fair	54	. .	2	56	25.24
Conduct unsatisfactory . . .	21	7	2	30	13.51
Have been in other penal institutions	9	2	. .	11	4.95
Whereabouts and conditions unknown	7	4	. .	11	4.95
Total	182	36	4	222	100.00

TABLE NO. 12.

Status of all Boys under Twenty-one whose Names were on the Books of the Suffolk School for Boys from May 1, 1895, to January 31, 1910.

IN THE SUFFOLK SCHOOL FOR BOYS..... 137

RELEASED FROM THE SUFFOLK SCHOOL FOR BOYS, BUT
STILL SUBJECT TO THE CONTROL OF THE TRUSTEES.

At home (working)	152	
At home (attending school)	24	
Boarding	4	
Indentured (working)	30	
Working independently	4	
In penal institutions other than the Massachusetts Reformatory	1	
Hospital for Epileptics.....	1	
Lost sight of temporarily	6	
	—	222

DISCHARGED FROM THE CARE OF THIS DEPARTMENT.

Released to go out of State	80	
In United States Army	26	
In United States Navy and Marine Corps	67	
Committed to Massachusetts Reformatory this year,	17	
Committed to Massachusetts Reformatory, former years	142	
Deported	1	
Discharged to Massachusetts State Prison.....	3	
“ to parents as unfit subjects.....	2	
“ to Sockanosset School	2	
“ to Lyman School	2	
“ to Parental School	2	
“ to Insane Hospital	1	
“ to School for Feeble-Minded	3	
“ to Home for Destitute Catholic Chil- dren	2	
“ to Pauper Department.....	1	
“ on account of error in commitment ...	2	
“ on decision of Corporation Counsel	1	
“ on writ of habeas corpus	2	
“ by order of Trustees.....	160	
Fine cases discharged at expiration of sentence or on payment of fine, previously	199	
Discharged on arriving at age of twenty-one	282	
Died	30	
	—	1,027

NAMES OCCURRING MORE THAN ONCE ON THE RECORDS.

Returned to Suffolk School for Boys this year	14	
Returned to Suffolk School for Boys previously....	169	
Recommitted to Suffolk School for Boys by courts this year.....	4	
Recommitted to Suffolk School for Boys by courts previously	32	
	—	219
Total		1,605

TABLE NO. 13.

Occupation of Boys Outside of the Suffolk School for Boys (subject to the control of the Trustees) having Employment at end of Year January 31, 1910.

EMPLOYED IN TRADES :

Bakers	3	<i>Brought forward</i>	15
Barber	1	Machinists	9
Blacksmiths	2	Painters	3
Block maker	1	Paper hangers	2
Bookbinder	1	Piano maker	1
Brass moulder	1	Plumbers	2
Carpenter	1	Printers	16
Coopers	2	Tailors	3
Electricians	2	Upholsterer	1
Gasfitter	1		<hr/>
	<hr/>		52
<i>Carried forward</i>	15		

EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES :

Shoe shops	19		
Factories (other than shoe-shops)	21		
	<hr/>		40
Employed in stores, markets, etc.			9
Bootblack	1		
Chauffeur	1		
Elevator and bell-boys	1		
Express teams	3		
Farmers	15		
Fireman	1		
Florist	1		
Hostler	1		
Laborers	2		
Laundry	1		
Longshoremen	5		
Messenger boys	7		
Milkmen	2		
Office boys	10		
Peddlers	4		
Restaurant	3		
Teamsters	5		
Ushers	2		
	<hr/>		65
Total			<hr/> <hr/> 166

STATISTICS OF THE PARENTAL SCHOOL.

TABLE NO. 14.

Movement of Population in the Parental School during the Year ending January 31, 1910.

	Number in School.	Committed.	Discharged.	Released on Probation.	Returned from Probation.	Died.	RECOMMITTED.		
							First time.	Second time.	Third time.
FEB., 1909..	189	91	11	141	60	1	49	10	1

TABLE NO. 15.

Nativity, and Nativity of Father of Boys and Girls Committed during the Year.

	NATIVITY.	PERCENT.	NATIVITY. OF FATHER.	PERCENT.
Boston.....	118	78.15	18	11.92
Elsewhere in Massachusetts	17	11.25	9	5.97
Elsewhere in United States.....	8	5.30	16	10.59
Foreign born	8	5.30	86	56.95
Unknown .....	...	....	22	14.57
Total.....	151	100.00	151	100.00

TABLE NO. 16.

*Place in Family of Boys and Girls Committed and Returned
from Probation during the Year.*

GROUP.	NUMBER.
To eldest child group	28
To youngest child group	38
To only child group	4
Total.....	70

TABLE NO. 16 A.

*Parental Relations of Boys and Girls Committed and Returned
from Probation during Year.*

	NUMBER.	PERCENT.
Both parents living	78	51.65
Father only living	26	17.21
Had stepmother	8	5.30
Mother only living	25	15.54
Had stepfather	8	5.30
Both parents dead	6	4.00
Total.....	151	100.00

TABLE NO. 17.

Age of Boys and Girls at Commitment during the Year.

AGE.	NUMBER.	PERCENT.
7 years	0	0.
8 "	8	5.30
9 "	8	5.30
10 "	17	11.26
11 "	24	15.89
12 "	32	21.19
13 "	38	25.17
14 "	14	9.27
15 "	10	6.62
Total	151	100.00

Average age : 12 years, 4 months, 20 days.

TABLE NO. 18.

Number of Boys and Girls Committed and Returned from Probation from each of the Court Districts for the Year.

COURT DISTRICTS.	NUMBER.	PERCENT.
Central	8	5.30
Juvenile (Central)	28	18.54
South Boston	24	15.89
Roxbury	44	29.14
Dorchester	12	7.95
East Boston	17	11.26
Charlestown	14	9.27
West Roxbury	4	2.65
Total	151	100.00

TABLE NO. 19.

Average Attendance and number Committed, Discharged, Released on Probation, Returned from Probation, and the Deaths, by Months, during the Year.

	Committed.	Returned from Probation.	Discharged.	Released on Probation.	Died.	Average Attendance.
February, 1909	6	3	1	11	. .	188.75
March, "	16	5	. .	11	. .	197.97
April, "	9	3	. .	6	. .	200.53
May, "	9	9	. .	18	. .	201.23
June, "	7	6	. .	12	. .	204.23
July, " . . . . .	. .	5	2	10	. .	198.68
August, " . . . . .	. .	4	. .	12	. .	192.38
September, "	3	1	2	29	. .	171.63
October, "	16	9	4	12	. .	165.55
November, "	11	7	. .	9	. .	174.50
December, "	7	6	1	11	1	182.55
January, 1910	7	2	1	. .	. .	181.61
Total	91	60	11	141	1	188.30

TABLE NO. 20.

*Boys and Girls Discharged and Released during the Year 1909,
Classified by duration of Commitment.*

One month or less.....	1	<i>Brought forward</i>	95
Three months or less.....	1	Sixteen months or less...	7
Six " " 	2	Seventeen " " ...	4
Seven " " 	6	Eighteen " " ...	7
Eight " " 	7	Nineteen " " ...	3
Nine " " 	16	Twenty " " ...	3
Ten " " 	6	Twenty-one months or less,	5
Eleven " " 	13	Twenty-two " " ..	5
Twelve " " 	8	Twenty-three " " ..	1
Thirteen months or less...	15	Twenty-four " " ..	4
Fourteen " " ...	12	More than twenty-four	
Fifteen " " ...	8	months.....	19
<i>Carried forward</i>	95	<i>Total</i>	153

Average time spent in the Parental School by boys and girls discharged and released during the year: 13 months, 14 days.

STATISTICS OF THE PLACING-OUT DIVISION.

TABLE NO. 21.

Total Number of Investigations during the Year.

	NUMBER.	PERCENT.
For admission	700	32.57
Miscellaneous	875	40.76
Of boarding homes	77	3.58
Of free homes	74	3.44
For adoption and guardianship	6	.28
For release from Placing-Out Division	99	4.60
For release from Suffolk School for Boys (to parents' homes)	121	5.63
For release from Parental School on pro- bation (to parents' homes)	183	8.49
For return to Suffolk School for Boys from probation	14	.65
Total	2,149	100.00

TABLE NO. 22.
Disposal of Applications for Admission of Dependent Children during the Year.

	SETTLEMENT IN BOSTON.		SETTLEMENT NOT IN BOSTON.		SETTLEMENT NOT OBTAINED.		TOTAL.	
	1909.	Percent.	1909.	Percent.	1909.	Percent.	1909.	Percent.
Admitted to the care of the Department	200	58.13	. . 3	. . 1.81	. . 1	. . 8.33	200	38.31
Application made at the School for Feeble-Minded	7	2.04	1	.61	. . 3	. . 25.00	11	2.17
Application made at the Hospital for Epileptics	3	.88	27	16.26	. . 1	. . 8.33	4	.76
Withdrawn	100	29.07	. . 33	. . 19.87	. . 7	. . 58.34	130	24.90
Pending	16	4.65	. . 87	52.41	. . .	. . .	17	3.25
Referred to Overseers of Poor, Boston . . . . .	. . .	. . .	. . 2	1.20	. . .	. . .	33	6.32
Referred to Overseers of Poor elsewhere . . . . .	. . .	. . .	. . 1	.61	. . .	. . .	3	.57
Referred to State Minor Ward Department	1	.29	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	95	18.19
Referred to Home for Destitute Catholic Children	10	2.90	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	12	2.29
Referred to Holy Ghost Hospital	3	.88	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	3	.57
Referred to Society of St. Vincent de Paul . . . . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	1	.19
Referred to House of Angel Guardian	1	.29	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	1	.19
Sent to Long Island with mother	1	.29	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	1	.19
Sent to State Hospital . . . . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	9	1.72
Committed to Parental School	1	.29	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	1	.19
Referred to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children	1	.29	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	1	.19
Total	344	100.00	166	100.00	12	100.00	522	100.00

TABLE NO. 23.

Number of Dependent and Neglected Children Admitted during the Year.

	BOYS.	GIRLS.	TOTAL.
Dependent Children	120	88	208
Neglected Children	17	15	32
Total.....	137	103	240

TABLE NO. 24.

Nativity, Parent Nativity (Father), and Color of Children Received during the Year.

	DEPENDENT.		NEGLECTED.	
	1909.	Percent.	1909.	Percent.
Native born	202	97.11	32	100.00
Foreign born	6	2.89		
Total	208	100.00	32	100.00
White	201	96.64	27	84.38
Colored.....	7	3.36	5	15.62
NATIVITY OF FATHER.				
Native born	53	25.48	10	31.25
Canada and Provinces ..	27	12.98	13	40.63
Foreign born	116	55.77	5	15.62
Unknown	12	5.77	4	12.50
Total	208	100.00	32	100.00

TABLE NO. 25.

Parental Relation of Children Admitted during the Year.

	DEPENDENT.		NEGLECTED.	
	1909.	Percent.	1909.	Percent.
Had both parents	95	45.68	17	53.13
No parents	18	8.65	2	6.25
Father only	26	12.50	4	12.50
Mother only	48	23.08	4	12.50
Illegitimate	21	10.09	5	15.62
Total	208	100.00	32	100.00
Step-father	6	....	1	
Step-mother	1			
Father sick or disabled,	10	....	1	
Mother sick or disabled,	53	....	8	
Both parents sick or disabled	5	....	4	
Head of family out of employment	42	....	6	
Intemperate father	42	....	9	
Intemperate mother	13	....	2	
Both parents intemperate	5	....	6	
Parents separated	37	....	12	
Members of family had been arrested	25	....	12	
Parents known to have received charitable aid,	95	....	15	

TABLE NO. 26.
Applications for Release, to Parents or Friends, Received during the Year.

	APPLICATIONS.		GRANTED.		REFUSED.		UNDER CONSIDERATION.		WITHDRAWN.	
	1909.	Percent.	1909.	Percent.	1909.	Percent.	1909.	Percent.	1909.	Percent.
Dependent children	95	21.94	70	24.65	5	5.05	18	37.50	2	100.00
Neglected children	10	2.31	4	1.41	4	4.04	2	4.17		
From Parental School	188	43.42	120	42.25	52	52.53	16	33.33		
From Suffolk School for Boys	140	32.33	90	31.69	38	38.38	12	25.00		
Total	433	100.00	284	100.00	99	100.00	48	100.00	2	100.00

TABLE NO. 27.

Ages of all Dependent and Neglected Children who were in Charge, Placed-Out, January 31, 1910.

	BOARDED.						INDENTURED.						TOTAL OF BOTH FOR THE YEAR.	
	DEPENDENT.		NEGLECTED.		TOTAL BOARDING.		DEPENDENT.		NEGLECTED.		TOTAL INDENTURED.			
	Girls.	Boys.	1909.	1909.	1909.	1909.	1909.	1909.	1909.	1909.	1909.	Percent.		
Under 1 year	3	5	.	.	8	1.65	.	.	.	.	8	1.05	
" 3 years and over 1	14	19	4	.	37	7.64	.	1	.	1	.36	38	4.97	
" 5 " " 3	23	20	6	3	52	10.74	1	2	.	1	1.42	56	7.32	
" 10 " " 5	109	72	15	12	208	42.98	3	5	.	.	2.85	216	28.24	
" 12 " " 10	42	23	11	14	90	18.60	4	8	3	6	7.47	111	14.50	
" 15 " " 12	35	25	13	9	82	16.94	24	28	9	11	25.62	154	20.13	
Over 15	4	.	1	2	7	1.45	60	60	20	35	62.28	182	23.79	
Total	230	164	50	40	484	100.00	92	104	32	53	281	100.00	765	100.00

TABLE NO. 28.

Children Discharged during the Year.

	BOYS.	GIRLS.	TOTAL.
From Indenture	34	18	52
From Boarding	51	24	75
From other Institutions	29	41	70
Total	114	83	197

TABLE NO. 29.

Discharged from Indenture during the Year.

	BOYS.	GIRLS.	TOTAL.
Arrived at age.....	3	6	9
Discharged to friends and relatives.....	23	3	26
Adopted .....	..	4	4
Died .....	..	1	1
Absconded	1	..	1
Self-supporting	18	3	21
Married .....	..	1	1
State care.....	1	..	1
Suffolk School	1	..	1
Total.....	47	18	65

TABLE NO. 30.

*Applications from People desiring to take Children to Board
or on Indenture.*

	BOARDING.	INDENTURE.
Total received	138	151
Approved	58	61
Disapproved	14	9
Filled	39	41
Unfilled (on hand)	76	97
Withdrawn	9	4

TABLE NO. 31.

Transfers during the Year.

Boys	231
Girls	234
Total	465

TABLE NO. 32.

Transfers of Indentured Children during the Year.

	BOYS.	GIRLS.	TOTAL.
From indenture to indenture.....	58	72	130
From indenture to boarding.....	10	4	14
Total.....	68	76	144

TABLE NO. 33.

Indentured for first time during the Year.

	BOYS.	GIRLS.	TOTAL.
From office	3	..	3
From boarding homes	20	23	43
Total	23	23	46

TABLE NO. 34.

Ages of Children Indentured (for first time) during the Year.

AGE.	BOYS.		GIRLS.		TOTAL.
	Dependent.	Neglected.	Dependent.	Neglected.	
1 year . . . . .	..	..	2	..	2
2 years . . . . .	..	..	1	..	1
4 " . . . . .	..	..	..	1	1
7 "	1	..	2	..	3
8 " . . . . .	..	..	1	..	1
9 "	2	..	..	..	2
10 " . . . . .	..	..	2	1	3
11 "	1	2	1	..	4
12 "	1	4	1	1	7
13 "	3	2	5	1	11
14 "	5	..	..	1	6
16 "	2	..	1	..	3
17 " . . . . .	..	..	2	..	2
Total	15	8	18	5	46

TABLE NO. 35.

Location of Children at Board and on Indenture January 31, 1910.

	BOARDED.					INDENTURED.				
	Number of towns where children are placed.	Number of children.	Greatest number in any one town.	Average number in one town.	Number of towns with more than five children.	Number of towns where children are placed.	Number of children.	Greatest number in any one town.	Average number in one town.	Number of towns with more than five children.
Massachusetts.....	89	482	30	5	30	101	239	22	2	7
New Hampshire	1	2	2	2	:	13	20	3	1	
Maine	:	:	:	:	:	2	4	2	2	
Vermont	:	:	:	:	:	3	5	2	1	
Rhode Island	:	:	:	:	:	1	6	6	6	1
New York	:	:	:	:	:	2	6	5	3	
Nova Scotia.....	:	:	:	:	:	1	1	1	1	
Total.....	90	484	32	7	30	123	281	41	16	8

TABLE NO. 36.

Number of Children in each Home January 31, 1910.

	BOARDING HOMES.			FREE HOMES.		
	Children Unrelated.	Children Related.	Total.	Children Unrelated.	Children Related.	Total.
Number of homes with one child	112	..	112	254	..	254
“ “ two children	43	34	77	10	..	10
“ “ three “	29	17	46	..	1	1
“ “ four “	4	7	11	..	1	1
“ “ five “ . . . . .	..	2	2			
“ “ more than five children	4	..	4			

TABLE NO. 37.

Schooling of Placed-Out Children during the Year.

	BOARDED.	INDENTURED.	TOTAL.
CHILDREN ATTENDING SCHOOL.			
Of age (5-15)	375	68	443
Over school age	5	28	33
CHILDREN NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL.			
Over school age	2	180	182
Under school age	97	5	102
Mentally unfit	1	..	1
Physically unfit	4	..	4
Total	484	281	765

TABLE NO. 38.

Average Number of Visits made to Dependent and Neglected Children during the Year.

Total number of children subject to visits (dependent and neglected)	765
Total number of visits made	3,459
Average number of visits to each child	4+

TABLE NO. 39.

Distribution of Children on the Rolls of this Department in the Care of other Institutions.

Long Island Hospital	15
State Hospital	1
Massachusetts Hospital School	33
Massachusetts State Sanatorium	7
Perkins Institution for the Blind	4
House of the Good Shepherd	5
American School for the Deaf	1
Reading Hospital	1
Dickinson Hospital	1
Total	68

TABLE NO. 40.

Deaths that have Occurred in the Placing-Out Division during the Year.

	ADMITTED.	AGE AT DEATH.			CAUSE OF DEATH.	IN CARE OF DEPARTMENT.		
		Yrs.	Mos.	Days.		Yrs.	Mos.	Days.
1	. . . . . Dec. 8, 1908 . .	. .	5	7	Intestinal Obstruction . . . . .	. .	4	20
2	. . . . . May 7, 1909 . .	. .	1	26	Gastro colitis . . . . .	. .	. .	6
3	. . . . . April 7, 1909 . .	. .	3	27	Congenital Syphilis . . . . .	. .	3	10
4	. . . . . Jan. 28, 1897 . .	20	9	17	Consumption	12	5	24
5	. . . . . March 29, 1909 . .	. .	5	18	Meningitis . . . . .	. .	4	20
6	. . . . . Aug. 24, 1909 . .	. .	. .	29	Marasmus . . . . .	. .	. .	11
7	. . . . . Feb. 20, 1909 . .	3	9	24	Infantile Paralysis	1	6	17
8	. . . . . April 12, 1909 . .	. .	5	28	Cholera Infantum . . . . .	. .	5	2
9	. . . . . Jan. 5, 1909 . .	. .	9	15	Marasmus . . . . .	. .	8	18
10	. . . . . April 6, 1901 . .	10	4	10	Pneumonia	8	7	3
11	. . . . . July 24, 1909 . .	. .	11	22	Marasmus . . . . .	. .	4	26
12	. . . . . Dec. 20, 1909 . .	. .	2	24	Marasmus . . . . .	. .	. .	6
13	. . . . . Jan. 15, 1908 . .	3	10	20	Pyemia	1	11	18
14	. . . . . May 4, 1908 . .	6	9	15	Bronchial Pneumonia	1	8	4

